

Operating Instructions and House Rules *(please have also participants reading this)*

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Equipment of the house - The kitchen has all equipment that is necessary for a camp operation.
- On each mattress of the two large bedrooms there are two blankets and one pillow.
- The beds of the small room have the same plus a conventional size (non-nordic) feather cover.
- Two sinks in two separate washrooms and cold tap water, **no showers** (but an open-air hot tub that can be heated with fire wood; has space for up to 8 people together), 2 WC's.
- A rescue harness (canvas) and a rescue stretcher are located in the room next to the first WC.

Bring with you - Kitchen and personal laundry, fire ignition cubes, matches, toilet paper
- Cleaning and dish washing detergent
- Radio with batteries (especially for weather forecast)
- Sleeping bag and **cover for pillow** (if you like, take bedding-sheets, etc.)
- Flash light, electric torch

Order in the house - House shoes compulsory in living-room and bedrooms
- Boots for hiking or skiing to be put onto the metallic roller shelve in the living-room (dry and warm)
- **Dogs are not welcome**
- For the personal utensils there are cavities in front of the large bedrooms
- 2 blankets per mattress; not to be used outdoors or on floor, except for those marked OUTDOOR (located on top of cleaning cabinet)

Fire Caution is better than extinguishing! - In winter no fire fighter will come,
in summer most probably too late.

The house is built of dry wood that burns easily!

- **No candles in WC**, at sinks, in corridors, bedrooms, basement!
- **No unattended fire**, not in the fire place in the house nor out-doors!
- **Absolute NO SMOKING** in the entire house; *outside do not throw away cigarettes, etc. or stuff them into the snow (all will re-appear in spring), but rather discard it with the waste.*
- **Around the house no fire** except within the prepared fire place at the play field!

Smoke detectors

In the upper bedrooms, at the top of the stairs and in the basement there are smoke detectors installed that produce a tremendously strong high pitch noise, when there is smoke.

They send no alarm to the fire fighters!

They only function as an alarm for the inhabitants. Therefore it is strictly forbidden to manipulate at the smoke detectors or to remove the batteries (except for momentaneous interruption of a false alarm, but only by a leader).

Emergency exit devices

- At the windows of the two upper bedrooms there are emergency exit ropes installed.
- They are only to be used in case of an emergency!
- They are no toys (safety hazard)!
- However it would be wise, if the leader would instruct their use within the first days. Actual training under supervision and precautions **at your own risk** and *in socks only* (no shoes nor bare foot, due to possible spoiling of the house wall).

Fire extinction blankets

These are used, if there is a fire on a table or on the stove, etc. They are located in the living-room between the two doors of the bedrooms, in the kitchen at the door post and on the upper floor in the entrance area. The directions for use are printed on the cover.

Bucket pump jet is located in the living-room

- Demonstrate its use on the first day to the whole group, if at all possible.

Fire Extinguishers

These are located on top of the stairs at the left, then also at the bottom of the stairs at the right and also in the kitchen next to the door. Every guest must be informed about their use (see directions for use on the sticker). **Do not remove seal just for practice.** Filling is expensive!

Fire Hose on a roll at the wall in the rear basement right under the trap door; read the operating instructions

- This hose provides water at a pressure of 5 atmospheres in practically unlimited quantity.
- In case of a fire someone must climb down, shut the jet at the jet-end, hand it to the person fighting the fire and open fully the red valve right under the roll.
- Its use is to be demonstrated to the entire group on the first day, if at all possible.
- *In winter check daily, if some water exits the jet (frost protection); caution low flow from well in winter.*

Warning: Keep trap door to basement free at all times

Open fire-place

(Possibly smaller pieces on a wooden block next to the fire-place)

Never hack wood on the stone of the fire-place! Only to be done in the basement or outside.

1. Get fire wood from the basement (cut it small yourself); keep wood only in box next to fire-place.
2. Open chimney shutter
3. All the way back in the fire-place lay a grate of branch wood (approx. 5 pieces, depending of desired size of fire) and on top of this build with more wood a small „block house“. Inside this start the fire with paper and small wood. This procedure creates a nice fire. In the course of the burning process move the pieces closer to each other and add more wood as desired.
4. Do not pull the fire to the front of the fire-place! Otherwise the draft is poor and smoke will enter the room; additionally the heating effect of the air-warming device will be much reduced.
5. If nobody watches the fire, the **spark protection screens must be put in place** (avoid fire damage).
6. If possible, let the fire burn down completely in the evening! Last small live coal and ashes should be shoveled into the closed metal bucket for ashes and put outside, extinguished completely by pouring water over it and dumped into the ash-bin („Aschensilo“) near the compost pile.
7. With no fire burning close the shutter of the chimney (reduce loss of warm air from the room).
8. Our fire-place is equipped with a special air-warming device. When the fire burns nicely and especially with good live coal, warm or even hot air will exit on top from the screened openings at left and right (air intakes are at the bottom left and right). This room-heating can be increased by running the fans installed in the bottom of the fire-place. The control box is located at the right at the chimney (blowing power or noise can be adjusted). The blinking lamp reminds to shut the blowers off, when there is no fire burning!

Fuel Stove

- The operating instructions are located in the cabinet next to the stove or in the operating instructions for the house; this book is called "Betriebsbuch", but is in German only.
- Pour fuel carefully from portable container into tank of stove; do not spill, because of the ugly smell!
- The storage tank is located in the basement and has a hand pump for filling the portable container.
- Only ignite the stove by means of the special wax-paper matches (e.g. FIDIBUS) or with starter cubes (both located in the cabinet next to the stove; do not use paper or cardboard, etc.).

Wood Stove in kitchen (Type Tiba with large cooking surface)

- First put large pieces of wood onto the grid; on top of this start the fire with small wood and paper.
- When it burns well, add more wood as needed.
- Clean the cooking surface daily; do not let burn-in anything.
- Get fine and coarse wood from the basement (cut yourself) and keep some in storage (pre-drying).
- It is a good idea to keep some hot water in thermal pots (insulation pots) for use until the stove is being started again (save wood and gas).

Note: If smoke exits into the kitchen, apply first the special electric blower „Kaminkaltluftzapfenausschussgebläse“.

Propane Gas Heater

Use this for heating small quantities, for which starting the stove would be wasting of fire-wood.

After use **close propane containers immediately** (not only at night) for safety reasons (a high pressure hose bursting could become a real bad danger).

Measuring the Energy-consumption - regarding fire-wood and liquid fuel please instruct all your folks

Wood, heating liquid fuel and propane gas will be charged to you according to your consumption. Therefore when taking over the house you must take a reading of each of the two scales under the propane bottles and enter it into the list located on the door of the cleaning cabinet; the same you do at the end of your stay. - At the storage tank for liquid fuel you enter a mark on the list called "Ölliste" for every full portable container you take; the same you do at the fire-wood storage place in the list called "Holzbezugsliste" for every "Masskiste" (measuring box) you fill (flat) for use. - **Remind your folks to do it diligently, as it is easily forgotten!**

At the end of your stay this all is to be summed up and entered in the sheet "House Return Form/Bill".

Fireworks

- Only to be used on the road to the north of the house; do not direct it towards the house!
- Never on the play field (danger for neighbour house and littering the play field).

Fire in the open: Only at the existing fire location at the edge of the play field.

Water**Summer Operation of the House**

Not only in winter, but also in spring and fall it can be very cold at this altitude. If a water line freezes, then the water supply can be interrupted for a long time; possibly a line could also break. When the temperature outside falls below freezing, it is a necessary precaution to open the frost protection valves in kitchen, WC's and wash basins and adjust them for a reasonable continuous flow; this flow must be checked daily, since it reduces itself unfortunately due to rubber seals swelling!

Winter Operation of the House

Check daily, if the frost protection valves allow for sufficient continuous water flow; equally check the flow through the fire-hose in the rear part of the basement (below the trap door).

Light**Electric Light** (from solar electric system)

The light of the sun is being used as the energy source for charging the batteries in the basement. Their capacity is quite limited. On days with little sun it may happen that they are not fully recharged. Therefore: **Switch-off every light that is not needed. Use a flash light when walking around.**

220Volt AC (from sine-wave-inverter and the same batteries) can be supplied in small quantity (amperage), if this is requested, for e.g. cassette player, note-book, charging mobile phones, etc.; it is supplied at the multiple outlet unit (with control lamp) marked so located in the south corner of the living-room; switching on and off at the remote control box (below control unit of the solar electric system in the double-room); only operate the inverter if needed, as it also uses battery power, when nothing is connected to the inverter outlet.

Muscle power generator (in the basement): Daily produce some electricity by means of muscle power to avoid depletion of the batteries - and of course, when they are empty!

Propane Gas Lamps in Living-room, Corridor and Kitchen

This type of lighting is relatively expensive and requires much caution by its users. The gas lamps should only be operated by people that are properly instructed or who have studied the operating instructions in the Instructions Book of the house ("Betriebsbuch". Children may not operate them. The gas lamps in kitchen and corridor should only be used, when the electric light is inoperable due to empty batteries. The gas lamps in the living-room may be used, if their comfortable light is desired.

After use **close propane containers immediately** (not only at night) for safety reasons (a high pressure hose bursting could become a real bad danger).

Flash Lights, Pocket Lights, electric torches

Every guest should be equipped with a personal flash light, so that it is not necessary to light a solar lamp all the time when going around somewhere in the house.

Dishes, knives, forks, spoons**for at least 30 Persons available**

Broken or damaged items are to be kept till the return of the house and shown as well as entered in the form "House Return/Bill"; this is also due for lost items.

Food, etc.

It is possible that there could be some mice. Therefore keep food out of their reach, best in well sealed containers. At the end of your stay take all your perishable supplies with you. You may leave not perishable supplies in a locker for the next user, if you wish, instead of taking them with you.

Waste**Waste separation Environment**

Only put decomposable waste onto the compost pile, at corner to the entrance of the basement.

Separate your waste: Cans, glass, PET beverage bottles (all rinsed!!), paper, cardboard.

Do not incinerate burnable garbage in stove or fire-place (protect our environment).

Put a liner with a capacity of 60 or 110Liters into the large container at the entrance (or a smaller liner in a smaller bin) and collect all garbage. The full sacks **must be tagged with the payment tag "Entsorgungs-Tarifmarke"** located at the bulletin board. Then place the sacks into the garbage disposal cabine that is located in the village close to the first parking lot (see sketch "Kroki").

Caution: The tag for paying the garbage disposal is COMPULSORY; it will be very expensive and uncomfortable, if someone's untagged trash is being identified (untagged sacks are opened and searched!).

Cleaning

For this see page 2 of the "House Return Form/Bill".

Normally the house is being inspected at the end by an instructed person; the wood stove in the kitchen is often not properly cleaned. *In case of need for additional cleaning a fee can be charged to the tenant.*

Transport**In Summer**

On the alpine road to the house the use of motor vehicles is generally restricted. Therefore a special permit is necessary. For each group or family it is possible to request such a permit (only during the snow-free period) using a special form (download pdf-file from our homepage). The permit is for a vehicle of max. 3.5tons of weight in total. The fee is CHF 20.- for one week, for each following week another CHF 10.-; the filled-in form must be sent to the address indicated, together with an envelope addressed to you (in an emergency situation the permit may also be obtained at Hotel Alpina normally, if open).

In Winter

The snow-covered alpine road, which for the use by pedestrians is being treated with a snow-mobile, if the weather is good enough, passes about 200m below the house, but driving a car on it is not possible in winter. All material has to be carried by rucksack or transported to the house by using the rescue-sledge (located in the basement of the alpine house). **The house is not located at a skiing site.**

From the local tourist organisation and latest 10days in advance we could organize for you a snow-mobile for transport of materials (no people) at an additional cost for you of CHF 100 to 200.

*Dangers
in the
Mountains*

Fog

At every season fog can appear unexpectedly and disable any orientation. Therefore **never** start a tour without map and compass; additionally we recommend an altimeter. When fog appears, never leave the path. Single participants should never leave the alpine house without informing about the way and where they go.

Avalanches

In winter 83/84 an avalanche passed by the house 5 Meters north. It cannot be denied by 100% that the house could be damaged one day.

Therefore: **Listen to the weather forecast** (a radio is compulsory!)

If snow falls continue for an extended period, listen to (Avalanche report) **Lawinenbulletin Tel. 187**.

With strong winds in the slopes above the house large quantities of snow can be disposed of, which can form an avalanche that can reach the house.

If within 24 hours there is snow fall of 50cm or more, the house owner or the person in charge must be contacted by telephone.

It is possible that the group must be evacuated. Orders of the person in charge, the local authorities or the police have to be strictly obeyed.

The owner or person in charge will help in finding an alternative to stay in.

The same is true before beginning of the stay in the alpine house, if the local authorities close the passage to the house and the stay is inhibited or delayed.

During local avalanche threat it is forbidden to use the normal path to Parpan.

Two avalanche paths threaten it. In this case a path very close to the forest needs to be chosen, unless there are other orders.

During unpredictable weather conditions each participant must be equipped with skis or snow-boots. Just for weekends only the person in charge may allow exceptions.

Such extreme situations appear rather seldom, however, for example in winter 98/99 we had to cancel almost every camp. Surprisingly during that extremely snow-rich winter not a single avalanche came down in this area!

Our intention is to inform you openly and clearly, not to cause fears.

Warning: Skiing in the slopes above the alp meadows can be most DANGEROUS!

Miscellaneous

- Unmowed meadows must not be stepped on.
- The meadow right below the house between the two little streams down to the corner with the two little pine-trees belongs to the house and may be used; in summer some cattle of a farmer is grazing there. In winter build your igloos here, not on neighbour's land (with spread manure!!).
- If you use the table-tennis table on the meadow, you **MUST SPREAD** the two green carpets at each player's end (grass protection); **table and carpets must be moved daily** for grass protection.
- When playing with a ball on the play-field, close the window-shutters of all southeast windows or hang the PROTECTION SCREENS over them; also put a board over the basement window. For hindering balls rolling down the slopes you may install the guard-net for sheep that is being kept next to the basement door inside.
- The open-air bathing tub (a heavenly experience!) may be used; **carefully follow the operating procedure!**
- For saving heating-energy during nights at freezing temperatures all window-shutters should be closed.
- **Never step on the roof of the house!** (Tiles may break; safety hazard and unnecessary maintenance work for us), except in winter for **one** person stepping up to very carefully free the snow-covered windows in the roof (WC's and cloak-room).
- **The House is not equipped for wheel-chairs unfortunately** (corridors and doors are too narrow).
- Pay in cash the taken post cards (cash-box) or enter the amount in the "House Return Form/Bill.
- We will be pleased, if you leave some **memory-note in our guest book** and if you *recommend our house to others*. Earlier guest books and a copy of the photo book of the house construction are also stored there for you to enjoy. - We are also open for critic and suggestions.

Thanks for your effort reading these instructions to the end. We now wish you and your group a nice and blessed stay.

*The Wirth Family
Berghaus Schalom
Oberberg Parpan*